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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1646
PATENT

#10/1146

10.21.02

In re Application of:

Tai-He XAI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1646

Serial No.: 09/886,041

Examiner: M. Brannock

Filed: 22 June 2001

For: A NOVEL G COUPLED-PROTEIN GAVE3

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a response to the Restriction Requirement mailed 12 September 2002 wherein the Examiner has given a one month period for response. Because the last day for taking action falls on a Saturday (i.e., 12 October 2002) and the first business day which is not on a Federal holiday is a Tuesday (i.e., 15 October 2002), the instant response is considered timely filed (see, 37 C.F.R. §1.7).

The Examiner has identified 6 groups:

- I. Claims 1-8 and 11-17, drawn to polynucleotides, vectors, host cells and methods of producing a polypeptide;
- II. Claims 9 and 10, drawn to polypeptides;
- III. Claims 18 and 19, drawn to antibodies;
- IV. Claims 20 and 25, drawn to a method of treatment;

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V. Claims 21-23, drawn to methods of identifying agonists and antagonists; and

VI. Claim 24, drawn to compositions comprising agonists and antagonists.

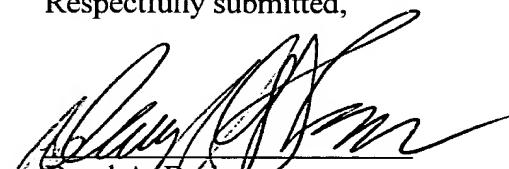
Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-8 and 11-17, without traverse.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have taken substantial steps to advance prosecution. Examination, consideration and early indication of allowance are requested respectfully. If any questions remain, the Examiner is urged respectfully to contact the undersigned at the local exchange provided below.

The Commissioner hereby is authorized to charge payment of any fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 that may become due in connection with the instant application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-2220.

Respectfully submitted,



Daryl A. Basham
Reg. No. 45,869

Roylance, Abrams, Berdo
& Goodman, L.L.P.
1300 19th Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20036-2680
(202) 659-9076

Dated: 15 October 2002